

MINUTES
MICHIGAN STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING
January 17, 2002
Lansing, Michigan

Meeting noticed in accordance with Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267 of 1976.

Present: Barton LaBelle, Chairman
 Ted Wahby, Vice Chairman
 Betty Jean Awrey, Commissioner
 John Garside, Commissioner

 Charles Krupka, Commission Advisor
 Jerry Jones, Commission Auditor
 Vickie Plummer, Commission Executive Secretary
 Pat Isom, Assistant Attorney General
 Greg Rosine, Director
 Barb Hayes, Chief Administrative Officer
 Larry Tibbits, Chief Operations Officer
 Philip Kazmierski, Bureau of Urban and Public Transportation
 William Gehman, Bureau of Aeronautics
 Wayne Niles, Bureau of Finance and Administration
 Gary D. Taylor, Bureau of Highway Technical Services
 Louis Lambert, Bureau of Transportation Planning
 Tom Maki, Director of Strategic Planning and Initiatives

Absent: Lowell Jackson, Commissioner
 Brian Larche, Commissioner

A list of those people who attended the meeting is attached to the official minutes.

Chairman LaBelle called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. in the Bureau of Aeronautics Auditorium, Lansing, Michigan.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

Commission Minutes

It was moved by Vice Chairman Wahby, with support from Commissioner Garside, to approve the minutes of November 29, 2001, as submitted. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

OVERSIGHT

Commission/State Administrative Board Contracts and Agreements (Exhibit A)

Charlie Krupka, Commission Advisor, reported that Item Numbers 25, 28, 29, 30, 31, and 36 of Exhibit A have been withdrawn. The description for Item No. 35 of Exhibit A has been revised, as submitted, and approval of this item is subject to completion of the internal review process.

It was moved by Commissioner Garside, with support from Commissioner Awrey, to grant approval to the Department to proceed with the contract process. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Bid Letting Pre-Approvals (Exhibit A-1)

It was moved by Vice Chairman Wahby, with support from Commissioner Garside, to grant approval to the Department to proceed with the contract process. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Letting Exceptions (Exhibit A-2)

It was moved by Commissioner Garside, with support from Commissioner Awrey, to grant approval to the Department to proceed with the contract process. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Contract Adjustments

Gary Taylor, Chief Engineer/Deputy Director, Bureau of Highway Technical Services, reported on the contract extras and overruns, Exhibit B.

It was moved by Vice Chairman Wahby, with support from Commissioner Garside, to approve the contract adjustments. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Bureau of Highway Operations, Metro Region, Blue Water Bridge Audit Report

Vice Chairman Wahby reported that he has reviewed the Bureau of Highway Operations, Metro Region, Blue Water Bridge Audit Report and the Department's response and recommends that the Commission accept the report and response as submitted.

It was moved by Commissioner Garside, with support from Commissioner Awrey, to accept the audit report as submitted. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

PRESENTATIONS

Director's Report

Director Rosine reported on the VanWagoner Building fire which houses the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), and expressed appreciation to MDOT staff that responded to the immediate needs of the Department.

The Director provided the following information. The Department is beginning preparations for Transportation Equity Act (TEA) 21 reauthorization. Staff positions in the Office of Information Technology are currently being reassigned to the newly created Department of Information Technology. MDOT is currently reviewing their prequalification rules and has asked the industry to also assess the process. Local news stations have been reporting on the proposed Detroit Intermodal Freight Terminal and the Director reported the project is currently in the environmental stage of the process. Meetings are currently being held by region staff to provide information on the Department's current year high impact projects.

Legislative Update

Doug Novak, Legislative Administrator, Office of Governmental Affairs, distributed a report and discussed the 2001 transportation related enrolled bills that will affect transportation including Public Act (PA) 5, House Bill (HB) 4234; PA 47, Senate Bill (SB) 396; PA 129, HB 4734; PA 142, HB 4878; PA 225, SB 502; PA 259, SB 563; and PA 279, SB 813.

In 2002, proposed SB 541 would update the Aeronautics code; proposed SB 5383 and HB 5396 would affect maintenance and infrastructure; proposed SB 28, HB 5134, HB 5467 and HB 5468 would affect railroads and transit; proposed SB 811 and 812 would affect intelligent transportation systems; proposed SB 943 and HB 5515 affects trucks; and proposed HB 5455 would affect project warranties.

Public Outreach Effort

Marsha Small, Bureau of Transportation Planning, reported on the 2001 State Long Range Plan (SLRP) meetings held throughout the state to gain public input on plan goals, and to compare public comment with strategies already in place. A total of 23 meetings were held in the seven regions, with an average of three meetings in each region and an average attendance of 21 people per meeting. Approximately 1,260 comments were generated from private citizens, elected officials, transportation officials and business representatives. The comments were grouped according to the proposed SLRP goals including basic mobility, environment and aesthetics, intermodalism, land-use coordination, preservation, safety, strengthening the state's economy, and transportation services coordination.

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The final proposed SLRP will be provided to the Commission at their April meeting. Draft documents on each section of the SLRP will be provided to the Commission on a regular basis as they are developed.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman LaBelle adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Commission Advisor